

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 644
By: Wentworth
Civil Practices
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Currently, purchasers at tax sales are required to obtain a written statement from the tax assessor-collector stating that the purchaser does not have any delinquent taxes in the county in which the tax sale is conducted. This has proven to be an administrative burden on some smaller counties that have not had problems with delinquent taxpayers purchasing property at tax sales.

As proposed, S.B. 644 brackets the public sale eligibility requirement to obtain a written statement to counties with a population of 250,000 or more, and gives counties with a population of less than 250,000 the discretion to require the written statements.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

SB 644 amends Section 34.0445, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, by adding Subsection (g), to provide that this section applies only to a sale of real property under this subchapter that is conducted in certain counties. Further, SB 644 amends Section 34.015, Tax Code, by adding Subsection (p), to provide that this section applies only to a sale of real property under Section 34.01 that is conducted in certain counties.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2005